

THE RATTLER

B-29s FROM PYOTE TO TOKYO!

Vol. 3, No. 16

Rattlesnake Army Air Field, Pyote, Texas

August 8, 1945

'HOLLYWOOD JAMBOREE' WITH 40 STARS SHOWS HERE TONITE

One Show Only At Drill Field Tonight At 8:30

The Hollywood Jamboree will be presented at the drill field tonight at 8:30 PM, one show only. No seats reserved; first come, first served.

The overdue Hollywood extravaganza, featuring 40 stars from the Nation's film capital, is due here tonight. A large stage has been constructed on the drill field, kitty-corner from the Service Club, to house the mammoth 3-hour show.

At press-time no definite information was received on the names of the artists. Tentatively set for the show, however, were such film names as Arthur (Dagwood) Lake and Dale Evans, ex-Charlie McCarthy foil, who has lately been

(Continued on Page 3.)

Point Values Due For Revision, Says Army Times

A second change of point values, involving a crediting of points earned since May 12, 1945, will be effected soon, according to the Army Times, unofficial service newspaper.

This second score, replacing the present 85, will be effected before the Army completes the discharge of a million and a half men. The Times article states that this new score will cover the number of men determined by point cards who can be released from service within the next six months.

The Army Times states that

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Motion Picture Unit Films Local Shots for 2AF Movie

A Pyote Superfort and several maintenance men will soon be making their movie debut. During the past 10 days a motion picture unit from the Boeing Aircraft Corp has been at PAAF "on location" making a training film for use at all Second Air Force B-29 fields.

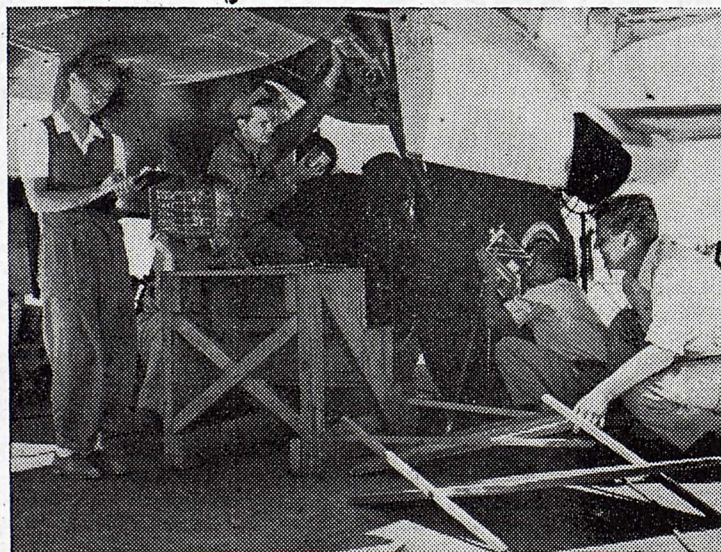
The film entitled, "Landing Gear Limit Switch Adjustment", was filmed on standard size 16-millimeter film which is used for training purposes. After it is completed, prints will be made and distributed to the various 2AF fields to be used in their training program.

Arrangements were made for the production of the film here by Mr.

Vernon G. Witt, director of Boeing's motion picture units. Production Unit Number 54, which made the film at Pyote, was headed by George Routh, director. Other members of the unit were Dolores Wolf, secretary and script

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PYOTE "LOCATION" FOR MOVIE UNIT



Boeing Motion Picture Unit, "on location" here at PAAF, making a training film for use at all Second Air Force B-29 fields. Left to right: Dolores Wolf, script girl; R. E. Dunn, holding the slate for one of the "takes"; T/Sgt. John R. Wood, one of the GI actors in the film; Richard H. Durrance, cameraman; and Peter Meegan, adjusting one of the large reflectors.

Another Record! 1954 Flying Hours In Week Tops All

Pyote did it again! This time the field broke another record, by totaling 1954 flying hours during the past week. The new record was 81 hours greater than the previous weekly record of 1873 hours set by Pyote during the week ending July 21.

Up to press time, Pyote also was leading all B-29 fields in the 16th Wing in total flying hours for August, with a high total of 1610 hours, which is 75 hours ahead of the nearest other B-29 field, according to latest figures compiled by the Statistical Control Office.

The past week marked the second time that Pyote broke the

(Continued on Page 3)

All Qualified Men To Go Overseas By May 1—WD

All qualified officers and enlisted men who have less than six months' service overseas will get foreign assignments by May 1, according to an announcement made by Secretary of War Stimson.

Returning veterans will be used as replacements for those men.

While all physically qualified male military personnel are effected by this new policy, special emphasis will be placed on men and officers under 35 years of age.

EM over 38, unless they specifically request overseas assignment in writing, are not included in the order.

Others exempt from the order

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THE RATTLER

PYOTE, TEXAS

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Pictures by Base Photo Lab.



Twice selected by Camp Newspaper Service as one of the best GI newspapers in the world, 1944, 1945.

COL. A. E. KEY, STATION COMMANDANT

Lt. W. C. Gruben, I & E Officer

Lt. Walter C. Van Buren, Public Relations Officer

RATTLER STAFF: S/Sgt. Robert H. Nash, Cpl. Edward C. Koops, and Cpl. Marie A. Rados

Conversation Enroute

There's something about riding in a railroad train that makes for conversation. Whether in a coach, diner, or club car people seem a little more inclined to talk; and it gives a vacationing editorial writer a splendid opportunity to discover a fairly accurate cross-section of the public mind.

The Man in the Diner was mad. He was sick and tired of seeing the civilians hog the best railroad accommodations. "Dammit, I hear that they sidetrack those troop trains to let these civilian-loaded streamliners get through. What they ought to do is turn every streamliner over to GIs. Nobody but GIs can get on them. Then they should take all the old coaches, dirty and sooty, and give them to the civilians for transportation. It'd do everybody some good." He was plenty burned. "I was riding to New York the other day on some government business. And the lady across the way was talking about the trip. She said she was going from Chicago to New York to buy a new fur coat. Can you imagine? She takes a train ride to buy a fur coat at the very time the government is pleading to the folks to stay off the trains. I hope they crack down and crack down hard. Give the streamliners to the soldiers and nobody else. They oughta lock up people like that woman!"

The Kid in the Club Car was sort of nervous. He'd just been back in the states for five days and was heading home on furlough. I asked him what his plans were. "Get married," he told me. He must have been all of 19. I asked him if he was sure he loved the girl. "Sure I'm sure. She wrote me pretty often and sent me a box of cookies every once in a while. I didn't know her very well when I left the states; but she wrote. That's the big thing."

The old woman in the coach had something on her mind. "If there's one thing this war has done it has made a new country. Why, my nephew was born and raised in Colorado. When he was drafted he was shipped to Florida and then out to California, then down to Texas. He marries a girl from Ohio, and thinks he'll settle down in New York. All that in two years, and for the 22 years previous he'd never been more than fifty miles from home." Yes that was something, I admitted. "Then take my cousin's daughter", she went on, "she's from Georgia. Her grandfather was a Civil War veteran—Confederate of course. She up and married a boy from Connecticut. His grandfather was a Union soldier. And I just said—I guess it takes a world war to finally end the Civil War. Nowadays people are seeing the country—finding out the United States is bigger than the state they were and raised in. And that's something—that's one of the biggest things that ever happened to us. It's too bad, though, that it took a war to make the United States united . . . and know it."

The only things some husbands run in their homes is the vacuum cleaner.

Is 1 Front Bigger Than 2?

There is a popular misconception which leads many people to a false idea concerning the Pacific war. It is that a "one front" war is so very much different from a "two front" war.

Generally speaking, this would be true. What makes it a fallacy in this case is that while the war in Europe was going on, there was never a real "two front" war being waged. We were making gains against the Japanese, yes, but they were being made with scanty supplies of men and materials.

Everything in the Pacific gave precedence to the war against Germany. The global strategy which we adopted after Pearl Harbor—and which has proved sound—called for our main effort to be expended against Germany. This meant that when it became a question of whether supplies would be sent to the Pacific or to Europe, they went to supply the war against Germany.

Now the situation is changed. We have only the one war to fight, and can throw all our efforts against the Japanese. Most estimates on the length of time required for redeployment said around six months after the war ended in Europe. But already, only three months after Germany's surrender, the tide of war has lapped against the very home shores of Nippon. This indicates how much the difference in supplies has made in the Pacific. And the full swing of redeployment has not been hit yet.

Just because it is now a "one front" war instead of a two-front, does not mean it requires only half the effort. In many departments the task ahead is greater than was the immediate task in Europe. Shipping is going to be taxed to the limit. Many buildings and installations not required in Europe must be built in the Pacific.

We cannot expect too much direct help from our allies in the war against Japan. Britain's army has been fully occupied in Southeast Asia for three and a half years. While China's manpower is enormous, it is isolated by blockade, not fully trained or equipped and hence of doubtful value.

The lines of supply in the Pacific are so extended that few persons except those in the top planning branches and those who have actually travelled over the vast reaches of Pacific water, really comprehend the size of the job ahead.

MR. BIGGOTT



"I want a reservation on a white, native-born, sixth-generation American coach!"

CREW OF THE WEEK



The Crew of the Week, so designated for keeping their aircraft in flying condition for the greatest number of hours in the past week, pose for their picture. They are, left to right, standing: S/Sgt. C. H. Paine, crew chief, Sgt. G. D. Wilson, and Pvt. T. T. Soderholm; kneeling are S/Sgt. C. W. Burr and Cpl. M. B. Ensey.

WD Releases Info On B-29 Sister Ship — Unveiled B-32

The War Department released a few facts about the B-32 which is now seeing action against the Japanese with the Far East Air Forces.

The B-32 is known to carry sizeable bomb loads for long distances at speeds exceeding 300 miles per hour. It is an all-metal, high-wing, single-tail monoplane with a cylindrical, semimonocoque fuselage, and a modified Davis low-drag wing with Fowler type flaps. The tricycle landing gear, which uses dual tires, is fully retractable and has a completely swiveling nose wheel.

Power is supplied by four double row, 18-cylinder Wright cyclone engines of 2200 horsepower, each equipped with two exhaust-driven turbosuperchargers. The Curtiss four-bladed props have a diameter of 16 ft. 8 in., and are equipped with automatic synchronizers. Propellers are on the two inboard engines have reversible pitch blades for breaking during their landing run.

Wing span of the B-32 is 135 ft., length is 83 ft; and height is 32 ft. It has a wing area of 1422 sq. ft. and a gross weight of approximately 100,000 pounds. Overloaded it weighs 120,000 lbs. and empty more than 60,000 lbs.

Hollyw'd-

(Continued from Page 1)

co-starring with Roy Rogers. Other well-known acts among the forty entertainers are Butch and Billy, two juvenile comics who hand out a mean hunk o' jive, the Cotton Sisters, featured with many name dance bands.

The entire show ranks as one of the biggest jamborees to play the Rattlesnake Army Air Field. It outdoes the Larry Crosby extravaganza of last fall, say witnesses.

Seats and standing room will be strictly first-come, first-serve, Lt. E. Y. Cherkosly, Special Services Officer announced.

Drivers' License Not Necessary For GIs In Texas

Any man wearing the uniform of the Armed Forces is not required to possess a Texas state driver's permit to drive any kind of vehicle within the state's borders, it was announced by the state legislature last week.

In addition, if a member of the armed forces continues to reside within the state following his dismissal from the service, his discharge papers exempt him from the necessity of a permit for six months.

The bill extending this courtesy was made law by the state legisla-

Atomic Bomb Given First Test at 2A Field

The world-shaking atomic bomb that blasted Hiroshima, Japan Sunday was tested at a 2AF base at Alamogordo, N. M., the War Dept. has disclosed.

The test of the secret super-weapon was made on July 16th at the Alamogordo Air Base, some 120 miles southeast of the city of Alamogordo. The revolutionary bomb, destined to alter the aspect and future course of wars and perhaps the fate of mankind, was mounted on a steel tower.

Record--

(Continued from Page 1) weekly flying record. At the present time this field holds all flying records for B-29 combat crew stations in the 16th Wing.

Following is a review of the records now in the possession of Pyote Army Air Field:

- Highest monthly flying time—7,396 hours.
- Highest weekly flying time—1,954 hours.
- Highest daily flying time—321 hours.
- Highest average hours per aircraft—6.26 hours.

Col. Key received the following message of congratulations from Brig. Gen. Longfellow, commanding general of the 16th Wing:

"Congratulations to you as station commander and to all the men of Pyote Army Air Field whose untiring efforts have resulted in the establishment of another new flying time record for B-29 aircraft. During the past week your station flew 1954 hours, 81 hours greater than the previous total, 5.5 hours per aircraft available for training, another new record for a weeks flying time of B-29 stations within 2AF. A copy of this TWX is being sent CG 2AF and to each station within this command."

Movies--

(Continued from Page 1)

girl; Robert E. Dunn and Richard H. Durrance, cameramen; Peter Meegan, electrician; and Walter Weber, props and equipment supervisor.

Completion of the film was made ahead of schedule, Mr. Durrance stated, because of the cooperation and assistance given by Lt. Col. Howard A. Davis, director of Maintenance and supply, and the personnel who worked with the camera unit.

Overseas--

(Continued from Page 1)

are physically disqualified officers and enlisted men; sole surviving sons exempt under the War Dept's. non-hazardous duty policy and special groups specifically exempt by the WD.

The bill extending this courtesy was made law by the state legislature in April, 1945.

Scientists retired to points six to ten miles from the scene, and the bomb was exploded.

An eye-witness announced that "there was a blinding flash lighting up the whole area, brighter than the brightest daylight. A mountain range three miles from the observation point stood out in bold relief as the bomb exploded. Then came a tremendous, sustained roar and a heavy pressure wave which knocked down two men inside of the control center. Immediately afterward a huge multi-colored cloud rolled to an altitude of 40,000 feet and clouds in its path disappeared."

"The steel structure," the Army eye-witness continued, "had been completely vaporized. Where the tower had stood there was a huge sloping crater."

The weapon was first constructed less than a month ago, on July 12th. One of the most significant results of the explosion at the 2AF base was that a blind girl, near Albuquerque saw the flash. Before the roar of the distance could be heard, the girl exclaimed, "What was that?"

The Alamogordo Air Field authorities explained the "explosion" by announcing that an ammunition magazine exploded.

The atomic bomb—the greatest war weapon of all time—has a force greater than 20,000 tons of TNT, has more than 2,000 times the blast power of the British "grand slam", the largest bomb ever used.

President Truman announced that it was from just such a rain of ruin that the Potsdam Ultimatum hoped to save the Japs. Military authorities unanimously concurred that the atomic bomb may shorten the war by many, many months.

Points--

(Continued from Page 1)

when this group, less those rated essential, are released, a third critical score will be announced.

It is this score that will involve the recomputation of individual scores so that men who have had service in the Army since May 12, particularly in the Pacific, will have additional credit for discharge.

There will be no immediate revision of point values nor any immediate change in the critical

This Week--

At The Theatres

Unless otherwise noted, Theater No. 1 shows at 1:30, 6:30, and 8:30; Theater No. 2 shows at 7:15 and 9:15-with matinee Sunday only, at 2:15.

THURSDAY

"HER HIGHNESS AND THE BELLBOY" with Hedy LaMarr and Robert Walker. Light comedy of Princess who is mistaken for an employee of a large hotel by a bellboy. He falls in love with her but she's in love with someone else. A rather impossible fairy tale. Hedy has TWO expressions in this drama! Shorts: Paramount News.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

"THE GREAT JOHN L." with Linda Darnell and Greg McClure. (A highly fictionalized yarn of the Boston strong boy who bare-knuckled his way to the boxing championship. The movie emphasizes his clinches with the ladies instead of the Gentlemen Jims. But Linda's worth 15 cents no matter who she's wrestlin'.

SUNDAY & MONDAY

"INCENDIARY BLONDE" with Betty Hutton, Arturo deCordova, and Barry Fitzgerald. (A musical comedy based on the real life career of Texas Guinan who popularized the word "sucker". Cordova plays the part of her bandit lover. Fitzgerald, incidentally, is the Irish chap who played the part of Father Fitzgibbon in "Going My Way".)

TUESDAY

"MAN FROM OKLAHOMA" with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. (Podnuh, we-all got a trusty hoss, a shootin' iron, a purty filly, and we is all just asingin' and ashootin'. It's just too bad the audience isn't issued M-1s in self-defense.)

WEDNESDAY

"PRIDE OF THE MARINES" with John Garfield, Dane Clark, and Eleanor Parker. (This is the story of Schmidt, the boy who was blinded by a Jap grenade on Guadalcanal. Life magazine ran the story about him, and his hesitancy in marrying the home town girl friend from Philly. Dane Clark is an up-and-coming young comic you should remember from "Stage Door Canteen".)

At the Chapel

CATHOLIC: Sunday Masses:

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ONCE OVER SLIGHTLY

by Milton Caniff

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8:00, 12:00, and 5:15. Daily Mass: 5:15. Evening Devotions: 5:45 PM Tuesday and Friday. Confessions: 7:30 to 8:30 PM Saturdays and before all Masses.

PROTESTANT: Sunday: Hosp. Service, Red Cross auditorium, 9:15; Civilian Sunday School at Civ. Pers. 9:30; Section C chapel service at 10:00; Station Chapel Service 10:30; Section C Vesper Service at 7:30; Station Vesper Service at 8:00. Wednesday: Section C Bible Study 7:30; Bible Quiz hour, Station Chapel, 8:00.

JEWISH: Friday Sabbath evening service, 7:30.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: Weekly service Sunday at 2:15 PM.

Around the Field

PHONE EXCHANGE: Phone exchange room open 24 hours a day in northeast corner of Post Office; furnished with chairs, writing tables, magazines. Attendant on duty from 5 to 10 PM weekdays and 8 AM to 11 PM Sundays who expedites long-distance calls and makes change.

SWIMMING POOL: 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

LIBRARY: 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

DANCING: EM dance Friday evenings, 9 to midnight, at Rec. Hall.

CARLSBAD CAVERNS — Trips to Carlsbad Caverns each Sunday; leave from Sqdn. A Orderly Room at 6:30 AM second and fourth Sundays for GIs; first and third Sundays for EM and wives (or WACs and husbands). Trips are for Enlisted personnel only. Only expense to GIs is cost of noonday meal (50c). Wives must pay regular admission fee to Caverns. (\$1.80). Reservations must be made prior to trip at Special Services Office, phone 27.

REC. HALL: Open from 8 AM to 11 PM.

MODEL PLANE CLUB: Pyote Prop Pushers, field's model plane club, has quarters in Sq. D area; invites all model-plane enthusiasts to join. Details can be acquired from Sq. D orderly room.

SEWING: Free sewing work at 10 AM to 5 PM. Office located across street from library.

SERVICE CLUB: Cafeteria open from 8 to 10, 11 to 2, and 3 till 11. No beer before 5, and Class A after 5 PM.

At Monahans USO

Wed.—Arts and Crafts program. (See story on Army Handicrafts contest on page 5.)

Thu.—Swimming and Watermelon Party at Monahans Municipal pool. Tickets are required; and are available now at the Monahans USO.

Fri.—Informal activities. (Try the record library, or take advantage of the writing room to catch up on your correspondence.)

Sat.—Dance.

Sun.—1:30 Classical recordings; 8:30 Movie Revival (Enjoy one of your favorite old movies, over again.) "House Across the Bay", with George Raft and Joan Bennett.

Mon.—Game night.

Tue.—Hospital night.

Army Handicraft Contest Started

Army personnel in this country will have an opportunity to demonstrate their skills in the field of handicrafts, the War Dept. announced last week revealing plans for the first nationwide Army Crafts Contest.

All military personnel within the continental limits of the United States are eligible to enter the contest and prizes will be given for the top three entries in each of the four classes. Prize winning exhibits will be displayed at a national showing at Rockefeller Center next February.

The four classes are: originality of design; best craft techniques, and materials; inventive use of improvised materials (odd and discarded); and functional value (utilitarian and decorative).

Because all types of materials and craft work will be eligible, the individual's imagination and ingenuity will prove of paramount importance. He may work in leather, metal, wood, soap, plastics, ceramics, braiding, knotting, shells, or any of a hundred other medias.

Every Army post in the country will select representative works made by personnel stationed there and forward them to Service Command Headquarters. There, entries will be shown in regional exhibitions, where selections will be made for the national show in New York.

First prize winners in the four classes of entries at the national exhibit will receive certificates valued at \$75. Second prizes are certificates for \$50, and third, \$25. Certificates will entitle winners to purchase craft tools and materials through the Army Exchange Service.

The craftsman may submit as many entries as he desires. Objects entered must have been made, however, while the soldier was in the military service.

No restrictions are placed on the types of handicraft entry the soldier may submit, except that it cannot be paintings, drawings, sculpture, prints, renderings, or photography.

Post Women's Club Appoints Officers For New Terms

An election of officers for the Post Women's Club was held last week, and the following members were elected to office:

Mrs. A. E. Key, Honorary President; Mrs. Stanley Persons, president; Mrs. John Alley, vice-president; Mrs. Robert Gantz, secretary; and Mrs. H. M. Bräutigam, treasurer.

Mrs. Benjamin Gattack was named chairman of the Red Cross Committee, Mrs. Russell Weymeir, chairman of the Spotters Committee, Mrs. Stephen A. Ham, chair-

7 Off-Duty Classes To Start Shortly, Say I. & E. Officer

Off duty educational classes in six courses will begin next week, the Information and Education Office announced today.

Instructors, classrooms, and textbooks are on hand for courses in the following subjects: Algebra, physics, small business organization, Spanish, electricity and creative writing.

Classes in all courses will be conducted two nights a week, with each class running approximately two hours. All subjects will be in elementary phase, designed to prepare the student for the more advanced phases of the course.

Additional courses in Aeronautics, Air Conditioning, Psychology, etc. are being planned for the near future, Lt. W. C. Gruben, I and E officer, announced.

Students interested in participating in these free, off-duty classes are advised to contact the I and E office this week, located in the Special Services bldg. next door to the Service Club.

There is an urgent need for a competent typewriting instructor to teach a class in elementary touch-system typing. Persons having the experience to teach such a course are advised to contact the I and E officer.

Further details as to dates and hours of the classes will be announced in next week's Rattler.

JEEPS FOR CIVILIANS

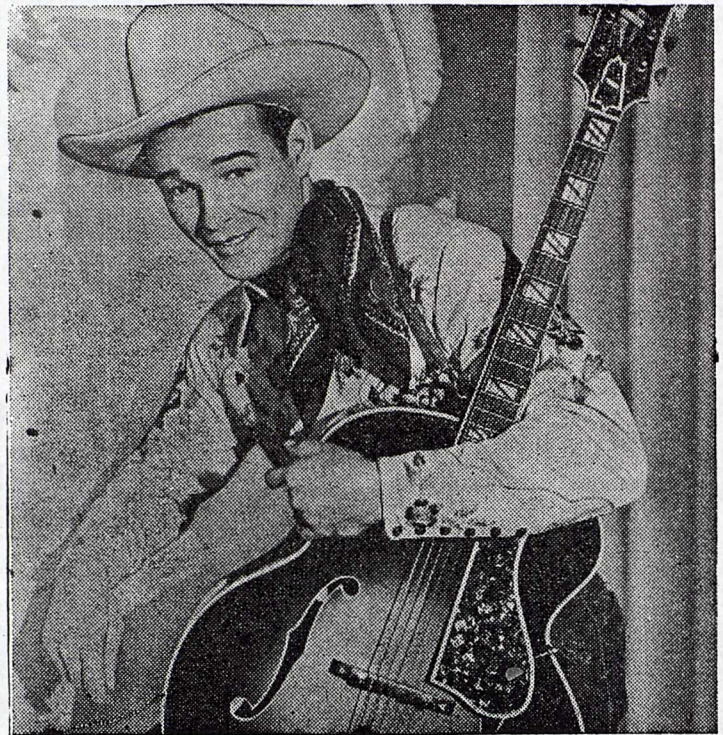
Willys-Overland began production of jeeps for sale to the public. The company expects to make 20,000 of them in 1945.

man of the public relations committee, and Mrs. James M. Bugbee, chairman of the special activities committee.

Named to the Executive Committee were Mrs. J. J. Taylor, Mrs. Norman Appleton, and Mrs. Bert H. Crepps.

The Post Women's Club meets every Thursday at 1:30, with luncheon served on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, and dessert on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays. All Officers' wives are invited to attend these weekly meetings.

OKIE



Roy Rogers, complete with guitar and hoss, plays the local movie corral next Tuesday as the "Man from Oklahoma". The horse is named Trigger, but the guitar is a maverick.

United Service Book Contest Opened To GIs

The United Services Book Contest, open to all past and present members of the Armed Forces of any of the United Nations has been announced by the three companies jointly sponsoring the literary event. They are the Crewell Company, American book publishers; Harrap and Co., of Great Britain, and Columbia Pictures Corporation, international motion picture producers.

The prize, an outright sum of \$6000 (plus usual book royalties on the American and British editions) and film rights which could total \$60,000, will be awarded to the most suitable booklength manuscript on any subject, either fiction or nonfiction, received on or before June 30, 1946.

Complete contest details, rules, and entry forms may be obtained from Crewell Company, 432 Fourth Ave., New York City 16.

SWEAT TILL DECEMBER FOR RATION BOOK 5

Ration Book Five will be distributed next December from the 3 to the 15, the OPA announced Tuesday. New A gasoline books will be issued at the same time. Both types of books will be arranged to last from 10 to 15 months, it was announced, with

Monahans USO Tosses Watermelon & Swim Party Tomorrow Nite

One thousand pounds of Texas' best watermelon have been ordered for slicing Thursday evening when the Monahans volunteer fire department entertains Pyote GIs. The melons fill the refreshment bill at the swimming party that starts at 8 o'clock at the Monahans Municipal pool.

All Pyote enlisted men are invited to the watermelon-swimming party, but are requested to pick up tickets at the Monahans USO.



MURPHY—Born to M/Sgt. and Mrs. Irving Murphy at the Pyote Regional Hospital on July 31, a boy, Irving John III, weight 7 lbs. 11 oz. M/Sgt. Murphy is assigned to Squadron A.

LEIZEAR—Born to Cpl. and Mrs. Lawrence Leizear at the Pyote Regional Hospital on August 1, a boy, Richard Lawrence, weight 8 lbs. 8 ozs. Cpl. Leizear is assigned to Squadron F.

the parenthetical hope that it might be the last ration book to be issued.

RATTLER REVIEWS AAF BE

Crowds Attend Program, Tour of Field Wednesday

Crowds of visitors from the nearby communities of Monahans, Pecos, Kermit, Wink, and Pyote thronged through the gates of Pyote Army Air Field on Wednesday, August 1, to take part in the "Open House" program in honor of Air Force Day, the 38th anniversary of the Army Air Forces.

The visitors were conducted on a tour of the field where they saw the civilian personnel section; the parachute department; a display of planes, including the famous B-29 Superfortress, a B-17 Flying Fortress; a P-63 fighter plane, an L-5 liaison plane, as well as some transient planes parked on the line.

The tour also took the visitors through the personal equipment section, the Post Exchange and

other areas on the field. A demonstration of the aquatic survival equipment was given at the Officers' swimming pool by members of the physical training department.

The 728th Army Air Force band gave a concert; three showings of the movie, "Our Air Force" were presented in Theater No. 2; and a

memorial service was held in the chapel. The "Open House" program was climaxed with a special retreat ceremony in which three enlisted men were presented with medals earned in combat.

The Air Medal was presented to Sgt. Adolph Kolker of New York City, and the Purple Heart was awarded to Sgt. Carl P. Johnson of Omega, Wisc., and T/Sgt. Howard T. Harper of Turner, Ore.

The awards were presented by Col. Algene E. Key, commanding officer of Pyote Army Air Field, after which the three men joined the colonel and his staff for the retreat ceremony.

AIR MEDAL

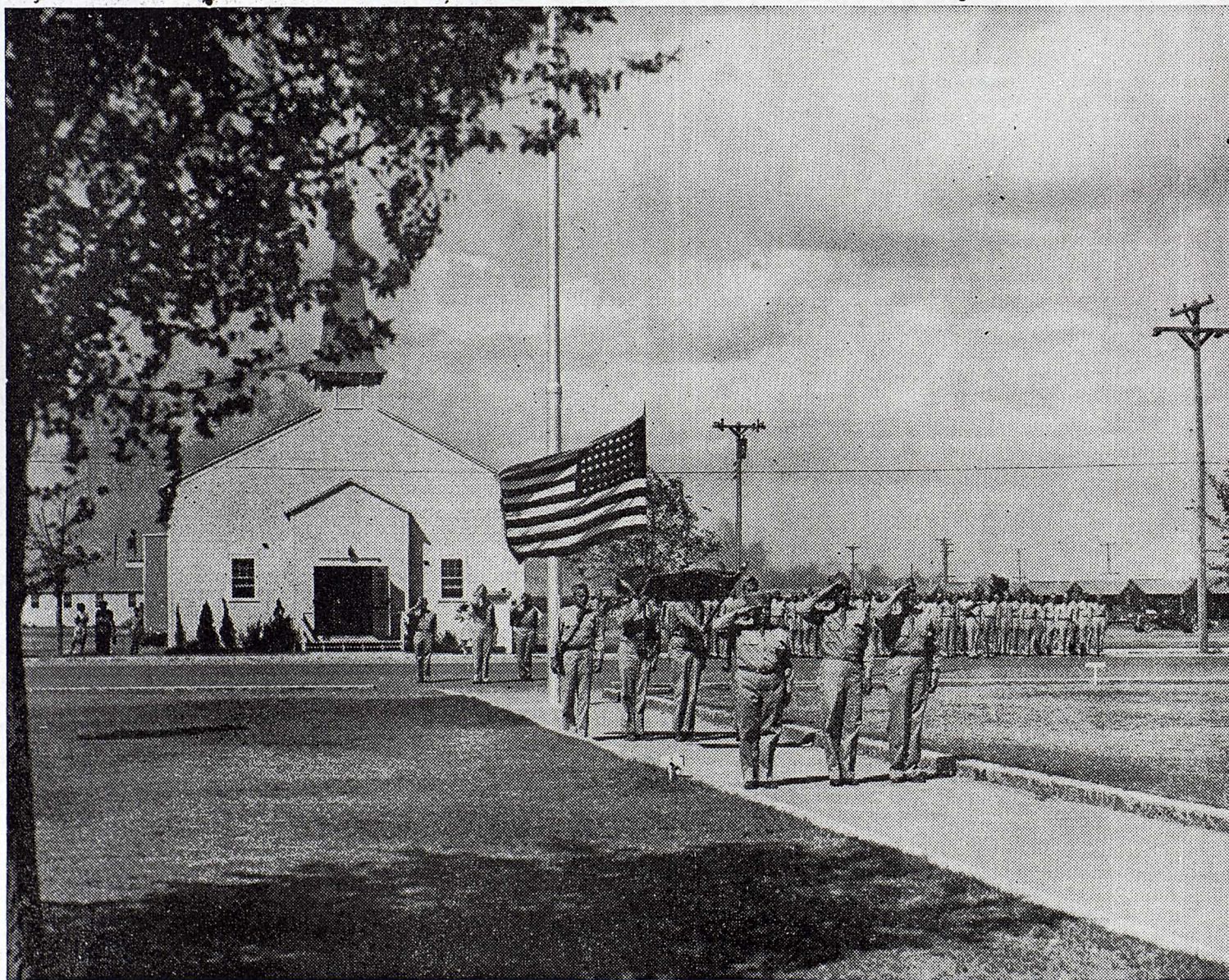
Sgt. Kolker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Kolker of 245 West 25th St., New York City, received the Air Medal "for meritorious achievement as an assistant engi-

neer-gunner from June, 1942, to April, 1943, while participating in sustained anti-submarine patrol activity."

A veteran of 250 combat hours of anti-submarine patrol off the coast of Newfoundland, the sergeant has been in the service since June, 1941. He returned to the United States in July, 1943, and was assigned to Pyote in May of this year. He is on duty with the engine build-up section.

He attended Samuel Gompers Vocational School, New York. Besides the Air Medal he wears the American Defense Medal, the American Theater campaign ribbon and the Good Conduct Medal. His brother, Cpl. Morton Kolker, is with an Ordnance unit in Germany.

Sgt. Johnson received the Purple Heart "for injuries received as



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a result of enemy air action at sea on December 21, 1944". During a landing on the Philippines at Leyte on that day, a Jap suicide plane crashed into Sgt. Johnson's ship.

A member of a service squadron of the Fifth Air Force, he was given medical treatment and continued to their new base. Son of Mrs. Lena Johnson of Route 1, Box 65, Omega, Wisc., he entered the service in January, 1942, and served in Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines with the Fifth Air Force, before returning to the United States last February.

He is assigned as a refueling unit mechanic, and in addition to the Purple Heart, he wears the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon with three battle stars and the Philippine Liberation ribbon with two battle stars. His brother, Cpl. Edward Johnson, is with a field artillery unit in Italy.

PURPLE HEART

Sgt. Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar H. Harper of Turner, Ore., received the Purple Heart "for wounds received in action at Clark Field, Philippine Islands, on December 8, 1941."

An aerial engineer, he was wounded with a 20 millimeter cannon shell from a Jap plane during the attack on Pearl Harbor. At the time of the action he was with his crew in a futile attempt to get their plane into the air.

Sgt. Harper enlisted in the Army in January, 1938, and was with the famous 19th Bomb Group in the South Pacific. He returned to the United States in December, 1942, and has been stationed at Pyote since January, 1943. He is on duty as an instrument specialist.

Civilian Personnel was the scene of one of the season's biggest social events when a crowd of GIs, guests and civilian girls attended a dance, enthusiastically acclaimed.

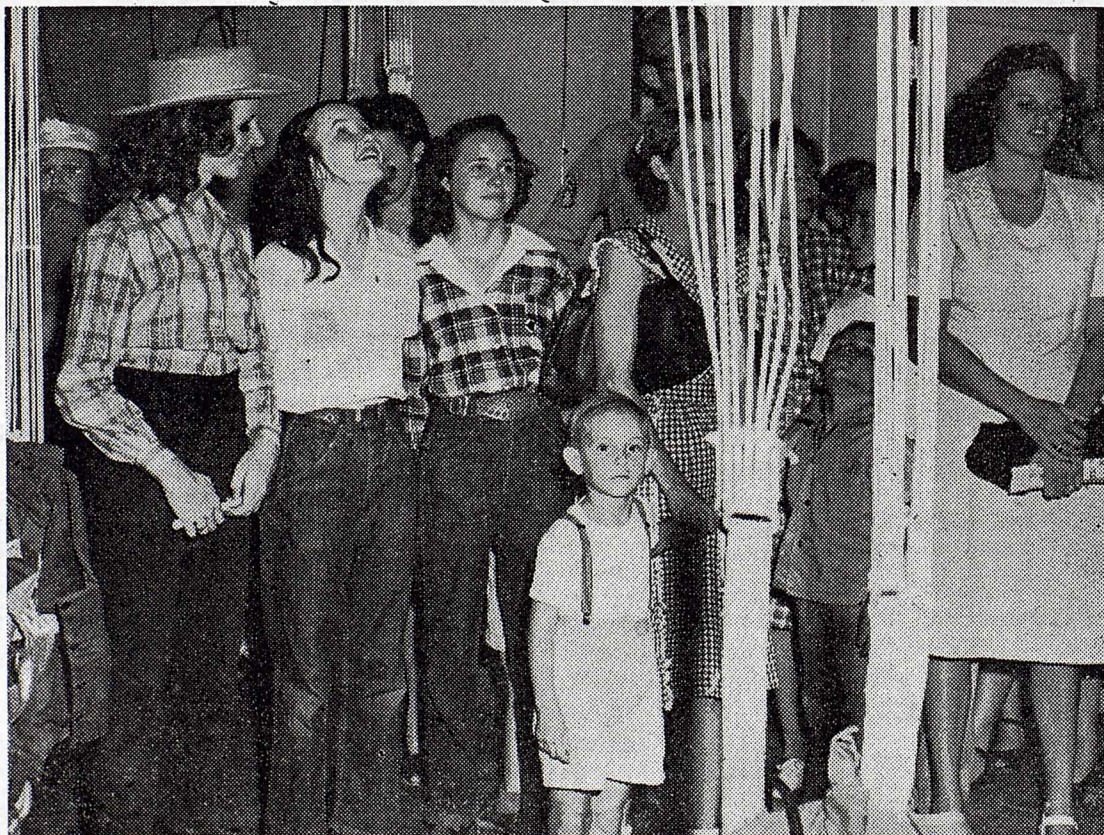
The Squadron C day-room was also the scene of a festive dance in honor of the "Open House" day, celebrating the AA birthday.

Col. A. E. Key, Commanding Officer, was host at a stag party given that evening at the old officers' Club.

* (left) A full dress retreat was held Wednesday evening and two Pyote men received the Air Medal, and one the Purple Heart. Observances were also held in the Chapel in the background.

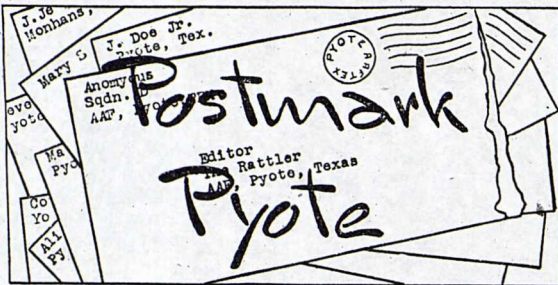
* (above, right) Lt. W. C. Gruben, Information and Education officer, explains the B-29 to a group of sightseers on the line as an MP guard looks on.

* (below, right) The Parachute Dept. gets an eager once over from another group of visitors.



B-29s . . . From Pyote To Tokyo!

"Postmark, Pyote" opens the columns of The Rattler to any and all correspondence. Letters should be signed but names will be withheld on request. Address: Editor, Rattler, Pyote AAF, Texas. The Rattler reserves the right to edit letters, and decide which are to be published. No letters will be returned. If your barracks bag's in salvage, blow it out here!



GIRL WANTED

Editor, The Rattler:
Some Joes who are pilots name their planes for a girl. Some tankers name their tank for a girl. Some Navy men name their ship. I'm an Infantryman and all I got to name for a girl are my feet. That is, if I had a girl.

If any pretty girl at your installation would like to have my feet named for her have her write me immediately.

Pvt. Phil Whelan,
Co. D, 28 BN, IRTC
Ft. McClellan, Ala.

BUS STOP

Editor, The Rattler:
How about posting bus schedules at the various bus stops around the field?

S/Sgt. N. H. Lacey.

• We'll see if something can't be done.

KUDOS

Editor, The Rattler:
Thought you would be interested in the enclosed clipping from Ideas at Work, a 16th Wing publication concerning your newspaper.

"While we're at it, we would like to state that you and your staff have in our estimation the most interesting sheet in this Wing, and we constantly refer to it during visits around the field, pointing out various departments in The Rattler as example of good editorial policy and reader interest".

A Wing Reader.

FAMILY ALLOWANCE

Editor, The Rattler:
Is the child of my wife's first marriage entitled to Family Allowance?

Cpl. H. J.

• Yes, if the child is a member of your household. You may have to produce a certified copy of your wife's divorce, decree, the child's birth certificate, and your marriage license.

ACCUMULATED LEAVE

Editor, The Rattler:
How are officers who have been overseas for a long period going to make out with respect to the granting of accumulated leave? Do we stand a chance of getting it?

Lt. R. E. W.

• The AGO says that leave to

four months may be accumulated, and that AR 605-115, which is pertinent, still applies.

LIBRARY

Editor, The Rattler:
So many GIs are inclined to take so many things for granted that often fine things go unappreciated. This is just to say that the library at Pyote tops any installation in courtesy and treatment.

The staff of the library has always extended every possible courtesy in finding books and articles for me. The atmosphere of the library is a real oasis at Pyote, and I wish to thank those responsible for making it so and thus enhancing the niceness of the field.

Pvt. John Larsen.

DIRTY WORD DEPT.

Editor, The Rattler:
It seems that maybe your editorials about swearing are doing some good. I see by the papers that GI swearing is falling off. H. L. Mencken, a leading authority on the language has stated:

"Although the talk of American soldiers in the present war seems to be full of obscenity, there is little true profanity in it. The decline has been marked since the Civil War, with only faint revivals during the two world wars.

"Despite its Puritan influence, New England had already acquired a working knowledge of swearing before the Revolutionary war, chiefly from sailors, wastrels, and fugitives. In 1775, John Adams was moved to authorize commanders of the Navy to punish profane and blasphemous sailors by causing them to wear a wooden collar or some shameful badge."

Mr. H. T. Norton,
Chicago, Ill.

THANKS

Editor, The Rattler:
I would like to use the columns of your paper to express my thanks to the unidentified GI who returned my billfold, completely with money. I understand he didn't want his name mentioned, but whoever it is, my very complete thanks.

Sgt. Philip James,
Squadron F.

Rattle Snake Charmer



Some enterprising young shoe-salesman sent us the above picture that we might print it and advertise shoes. Naturally we refuse to fall for such tricks because we know our readers have found it difficult to buy shoes, advertising or no advertising. The girl with the shoes is Anne Shirley and we wonder if her mother knows about this.

EFTC Sends Pay Check By Mail To Furloughers

Enlisted personnel of the Eastern Flying Training Command don't have to wait around for pay-day to take off on furlough. The EFTC Headquarters has announced supplemental check pay rolls for personnel who will not be present on pay days. Checks payable to furloughers will be mailed to their furlough address.

Okinawa (CNS)—A sign on a narrow road where Army engineers are working here reads: "Careful—Men with over 85 points working ahead".

9 More Pyoters Win Added Stripe During Past Week

Nine Pyoters added a stripe to their sleeve during the past week when 1 S/Sgt., 1 Cpl., and 7 Pfc. ratings were passed out.

STAFF SERGEANT

Clarence J. Habeger, Sqd. E.

CORPORAL

Margaret M. O'Neill, Sqd. B.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Anim L. Banks, Charles E. Dent, Gilbert N. Grimm, Harold O. Wolin, Haley E. Duke, Walter W. Alderman, and Carl G. Dandrea all of Squadron E.

Japanese Cities Are No Kid Tinderboxes

Before PH (Pearl Harbor) there was considerable misconception about the Japanese. One fallacy was the belief that all Japanese pilots were cross-eyed. Remember that one? And another theory that has been blasted to bits is that Japan is a land of paper houses and cardboard homes.

It turns out that Japan has a good many buildings of steel and concrete, as modern and fireproof as their counterparts in New York or San Francisco. Don't get the idea that all Japan is going up in flames as incendiaries rain on the major cities.

Most of Japan's heavy industries are housed in sturdy factories built to withstand assault of elements or air attacks. Of course some residential areas in the land of rice and sake are highly inflammable, of straw and paper construction, but artillery, generators, and ships are not made in picture book toy houses.

Ironically enough, it was American architects that gave Japan its modern buildings. Frank Lloyd Wright, primary architect of the U.S., put up the sprawling, yellowish Imperial Hotel—one of the few buildings in Japan that withstood the violent Tokyo earthquake of 1923. And aerial photos show it is still standing, despite our bombings.

Antonin Raymond, a Frenchman, designed some 400 buildings in Tokyo, such as the Otis Elevator Company, the Dunlop Rubber Company, and the Japan Steel Products Company. All these and many more are of steel and concrete construction.

And in their sly way, the Japs learned these western principles of architecture from Wright and Raymond and continued their policies when they rebuilt after the earthquake of '23. They were built to withstand the shock of a quake, and they can hold up under the ravages of war.

A resident who left Tokyo in 1938 says a ring three or four miles deep around the Imperial Palace is fireproof, and Osaka and Kobe are equally solid, he reports. It's his belief that the Jap radio is announcing the "destruction" of these cities to lull Americans into believing that the bombers' work is done, so they'll quit.

Japan is alleged to have the finest subway and the fastest train in the world. Their steel production is estimated at 12,000,000 tons about the equal of Russia. Sure that doesn't compare with ours, but Japan doesn't have to tote it halfway round the world.

Japan isn't all cardboard, straw and paper, brother. Not by a bombsight, it isn't.

B-29s . . . From Pyote to Tokyo!

Football In July Attracts GIs In Philippines

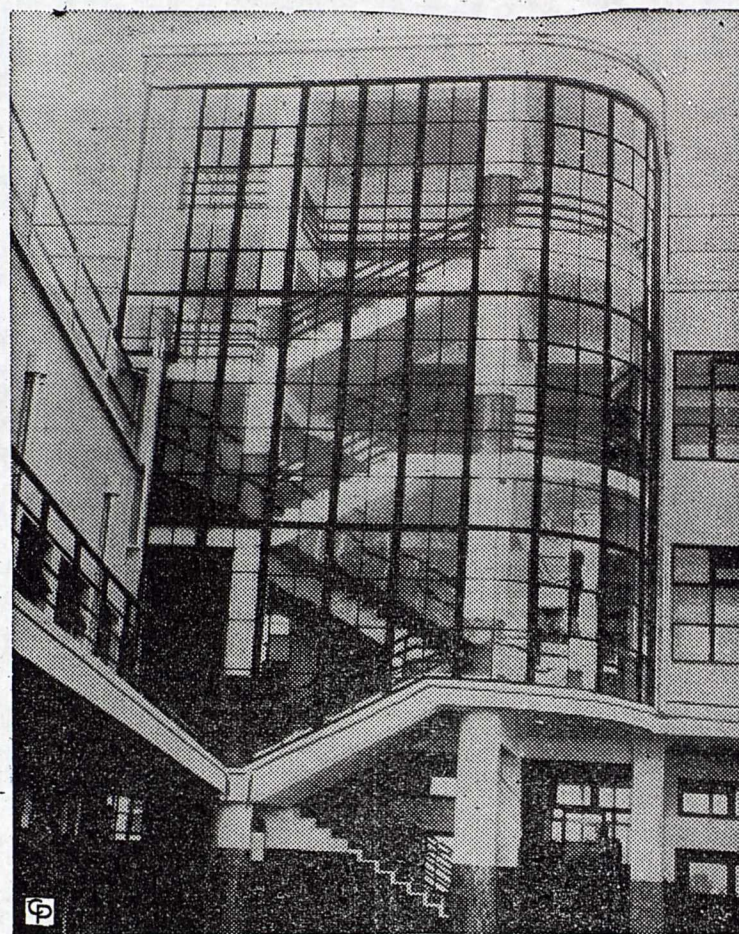
(Sgt. Don Larrabee has always been one of the Rattler's favorite "boys". As editor of the Davis-Monthan Desert Airman, Don turned out one of the crack sheets in the 2AF. Now overseas, Larrabee passes along this reaction to his fillip in the Philippines. —The Editors.)

I'LL TAKE MANILA: Trucks, jeeps, newsboys, night clubs, odors, restaurants, holes-in-the-wall, men and women, hundreds of GIs, people going someplace, and every one with a purpose. Manila has taken on the guise of any American metropolis. There's activity on its mud-packed streets. There's ruin here, and heat, and torrential rain, but there's also a certain vibrance and a spirit of being reborn. That spirit is gaining so in momentum under the impetus of a defying will that no one any longer looks back to the dark days of Jap occupancy, only to the peace and independence that is the promise of the future.

THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES are happy again, but so are the majority of the American soldiers who've been sent here. For many of the Yanks, it is the first touch of civilization in many months. For the first time, some of them are hearing native peoples speak their own language. They are seeing American movies at a city theater instead of a jungle dugout, attending major sports events in a real stadium, dancing to American swing, played righteously by Filipino bands, using stock orchestrations from New York. And they're finding companionship in the numbers of Army nurses, WACs, Red Cross workers and American girls who lived through the torture of the Jap occupation — companionship and an unexpected touch of home.

MANILA, ITSELF, RADIATES like a metropolis, but beneath those lights, we know, is the ruin and rubble of a once proud city. But, the lights are on again and no

TOKYO SCHOOL



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in Tokyo and the last word in modern architecture. Exterior is glass but the body is all concrete and steel.

one questioned that.

LATER ONE EVENING I toured the night spots with Eddie Ronan, former editorialist with "DownBeat". The conclusion we drew was that Manila unquestionably has more night clubs than any American city of similar size. New ones are springing up daily and they are giving birth to dozens of bands—big ones and small ones—rumba, jazz, swing. The clubs carry familiar names—Ciro's, Golden Gate, 500, Hacienda, Brooklyn Bar, Capitol Club, and Cafe Society. The "On to Tokyo" Club, we noted, was temporarily shuttered. Biggest ballroom in town is known as Santa Ana and it dwarfs anything of its type in America.

THE TOWN IS JUMPING, Mike Valerde leads a 16-piece band at Hacienda which would put most US orchestras to shame. It has a restraint similar to Glen Gray's Casa Loma outfit and every man in the band is a schooled musician. It's melodious, subtle, and extremely danceable. Mike, like many Philipinos, wants to try America, but he's not going to show his wares until he attains his version of perfection in popular music. Amando Federico, the Cugat of the Philippines, is actually an Argentinian who specializes

in rumbas and gives them a treatment Cugat never dreamed of.

VARIETY SHOW: Into each life some rain must fall (I assume they're still crooning that tune back home), and into everyone's life a lot of rain falls over here. Any jeep driver in town can say "Here's mud in your eye" and mean it . . . The Manila symphony has attracted peak GI audiences at the Rex Theatre this week, and they're impressed by the calibre of music presented. . . . While on the subject of off-duty activity, it's interesting to note that sports have no season in the Philippines. As incredulous as the melodic suggestion "Sleighride in July", is this Sunday's football game, billed at Rizal stadium, where the Japs holed in before the city was taken. A 4th of July contest pulled in 20,000 rain-soaked grid fans. . . More soon.

HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER

France (CNS)—After 14 years, Cpl. Raymond Surdez, of New York, had a family reunion. When the 36th Div. passed the French-Swiss border, he telephoned his parents in Berne, and they came to the border. Since Switzerland is neutral, he could not enter the country, so they sat on the line and talked over old times.

Election Ballots Ready For GIs from 6 States

Military personnel are advised of elections in six states this fall, according to information received by Lt. E. R. Goldberg, Personal Affairs Officer. GIs who are residents of these states may procure voting application blanks from the Personal Affairs Office.

Illinois: Elects Representative in Congress from the 24th Congressional district (comprising Clay, Edwards, Hardin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Johnson, Massas, Pope, Sa-
lina, Wayne, and White counties.)

New Jersey: Elects members of the General Assembly and various county and local officials in all counties; state senators in certain counties.

New York: Elects Justices of the Supreme Court, mayors of cities, and county and town officials throughout state.

Ohio: Elects village, city, and township officials, including members of the board of education.

Pennsylvania: Elects 2 Judges of Superior Court, municipal and county officers.

Virginia: Elects Governor, Lt. Governor, Atty. General, members of the House of Delegates, and certain local officers.

Election Day this year falls on November 6th in most communities. Military personnel may use the post card application for war ballots supplied by the Army at their own request.

All the above states will accept applications for war ballots at any time. Deadline for voting ballot itself is November 6th except in New York (Nov. 5), Pennsylvania (Nov. 16) and Virginia (Nov. 3).

Other elections this fall are in Connecticut where, on October 1, a general election for municipal officers will be held in most cities

WD Cracks Down On Tippy Nip-Ups While En Route

Use or display of alcoholic liquors in parts of trains not designated by railroads for that purpose, is prohibited, the War Dept. declared, ordering that any liquor openly in the possession of military personnel on the train or at stations will be confiscated and destroyed in the person's presence.

The WD also ordered that obviously drunk personnel will not be allowed to board trains and men observed drunk during a trip will be arrested "if their conduct warrants such action".

The Army warned MPs not to check baggage to determine if liquor is being carried.

and town; Illinois, where one county commissioner will be elected from certain counties on Nov. 6th; Massachusetts, where municipal officers will be elected; and Michigan, where Detroit will elect municipal officials on Nov. 6th.

Complete details and information regarding these elections can be obtained from the Personal Affairs Office, in back of Station Headquarters, adjacent to the Finance Bldg.

Rattler Classifieds Find Honest GI

One Pyote Sergeant must have got down on his knees last Saturday night and thanked the Powers that Be for the Rattler Classified Ad Service and an honest GI.

An unidentified GI, who wished to remain anonymous, turned in to the Rattler lost and found bureau a billfold, complete with \$10 bill. He didn't care to divulge his name and merely asked that the bill-fold be returned.

Not long after, Sgt. Phillip James, Sq. F, stopped in to place an ad for a lost billfold. The Rattler accomplished another quick service, and Pyote has the good fortune be able to claim an honest GI.

Fastest Fighter In World Is P-80, "Shooting Star"

The P-80 Shooting Star, jet-propelled combat plane is believed to be the fastest fighter in existence. It has a speed in excess of 550 miles per hour, a service ceiling of more than 45,000 feet, and armament of six .50 calibre machine guns.

The P-80 has a wing span of 34 feet and is only 11 feet four inches high, from the ground to the tip of the rudder. It is 34½ feet in length.

The Shooting Star requires no warm-up for take-off. The engine is started and the plane is underway in less than a minute. A complete engine change can be made in 20 minutes.

Send The Rattler Home!

2AF Changes To Superfortress Bases Only

The Second Air Force, which pioneered the training of four-engine crews, has announced that its entire network of bombardment fields has been turned over exclusively to the mighty B-29, Maj. Gen. Robert B. Williams announced.

Developing the B-29 program while sending 14,000 Flying Fortress and Liberator crews to Europe to play their own vital part in winning the victory over Germany, 2AF now is training operational groups, redeployed units, and replacement crews to carry fire and explosives to the heart of Japan.

Most of the Heavy Bombardment crews scheduled for redeployment from the ETO and MTO through the continental US are being remanned and re-trained for Superfortresses in the 2AF.

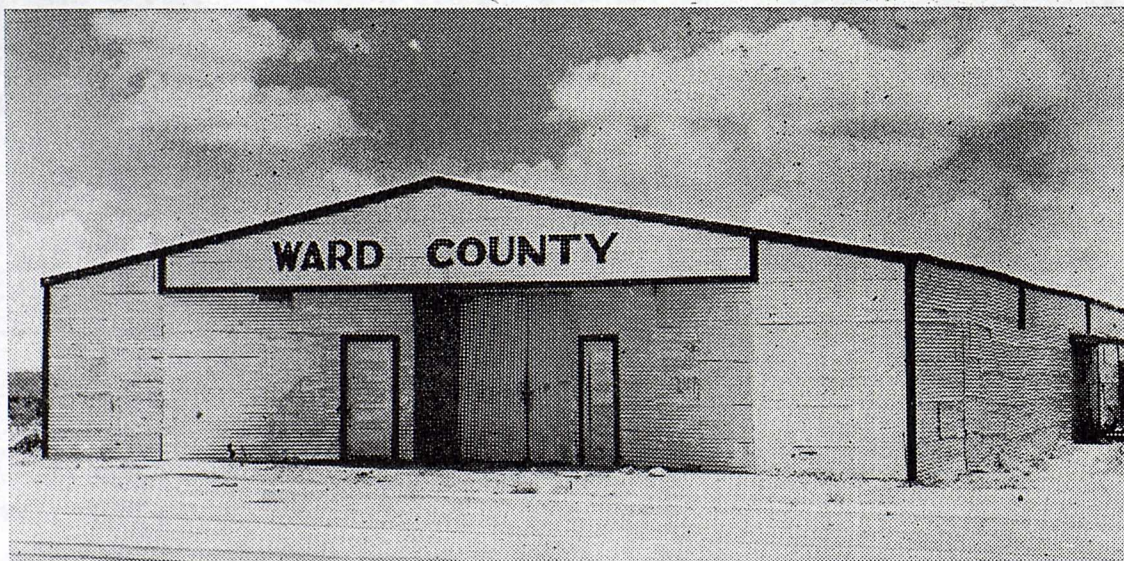
Sunday's 99 Hottest; Cool Week for Field

The temperature stayed under the 100 degree mark so far in August with Sunday's 99 tops so far; a far cry from August 1, 1944 whose 112 degrees is all-time tops for Pyote.

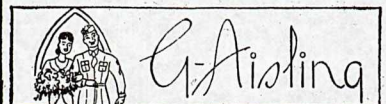
Temperatures for the past week and those of a year ago are recorded here, courtesy the Base Weather Office.

	1945	1944
Wednesday	96	112
Thursday	95	109
Friday	96	109
Saturday	98	100
Sunday	99	101
Monday	98	98
Tuesday	92	98

So This Is Pyote!



A familiar sight to town-bound travelers is the large corrugated building that boasts a trim paint job. It's new condition and size makes it stand out on the streets. The building is used to house the county highway implements.



CARLSON - PETRIE

Nellie Petrie, 19, of New Windsor, Illinois was married to Sgt. Joe P. Carlson, 24, of Rio, Illinois, on August 3 at the Station Chapel. The groom is assigned to Sk. F. Attending the couple were Miss Lois Saunders of Navoo, Illinois and Pvt. Phillip James, Sq. F. Rites performed by Chaplain Gilbert H. Curry.

COONS - RAGER

Dolores Coons, 20, of Lincoln, Neb. was married to S/Sgt. Robert D. Rager, 22, of Mitchell, Ind. on August 5 at the Station Chapel. The groom is assigned to Sq. D. Attending the couple were Mrs. Walter Kane and S/Sgt. Robert E. Durst. Rites were performed by Chaplain Edwin W. Norton.

Learn the Facts of Life; Use Classified Ad

CLASSIFIED ADS

The Rattler will accept classified ads for publication, free of charge. Ads must reach The Rattler or Public Relations Office before 5 p.m. Monday. The Rattler will act solely as a media for publishing the advertisement and as such will not accept any responsibility for ads printed.

LOST

MY WALLET'S GONE—I think somebody took it from my coveralls hung up in the EM swimming pool locker room. I would certainly appreciate it if someone will return the papers and pictures which it contained, and which were valuable only to me. Pfc. Stanley Stockton, Box 539, Sq. D.

MISSING—My bracelet with the name **THEODORE V. DELANEY** inscribed on it. Please return to The Rattler Office if found.

THERE'S A REWARD ATTACHED to this lost watch. It is a Bulova; gold with black band. Finder please contact the hostess at Special Services.

LOST—Two ration books in an envelope. Return to Cpl. John R. Winder at Sheet Metal department in Sub-Depot.

FOR SALE

IS YOUR BABY HAPPY?—I've got a baby buggy and bassinet for sale that's guaranteed to bring smiles of happiness to any little bundle from heaven. The bassinet has a mattress, and there's also a baby bed with mattress. See Mr. Davis at Post Engineers, Ext. 59.

TOO HOT FOR COMFORT—And I want to buy an electric fan. Anybody who has one they'll sell can find me at Combat Crew Personnel Office.

HAVE YOU ANY LEGAL PROBLEMS?

Legal assistance may be obtained by military personnel and their dependents by consulting Courts and Boards Office located in Station Headquarters. Important problems such as Wills, Powers of Attorney, Domestic Relations, Claims, and Naturalization, which involve the security of your personal and property rights, should be attended to at once. Neglect or failure to do so may prove very costly in many ways.

FOUND

AMONG THE MANY items turned in at the Rattler Office are three silver identification bracelets that seem to be good ones. If you lost one, Bud, come and get it. Don't you know or don't you care?

ONE PAIR OF slightly used dog-tags have been found and turned in at the Rattler establishment. Attached to the chain were also a key and a high school insignia.

HAVE YOU LOST a Yale key? We have it at the Rattler Office.

I'M SURE THE PARTIES who lost their Miraculous medals would like them. One is on a plexiglass chord and the other has no attachments. Both nice medals.

ONE PAIR OF BLACK rosaries have been turned in at our office. They are still in good condition and all in one piece.

SOME LIL' LADY just doesn't care about her hubby 'R sompin' cause she lost a wedding ring and it was turned in to the Rattler Office. About size 5½ ring finger.

SEEMS AS THOUGH THE ladies are getting careless. Also found a pink birthstone ring.

ONE LADIES GOLD ankle bracelet. Initials DRB on it. You can find it at the Rattler Office.

ONE YALE KEY with no chain or other accessories was turned in at the Rattler Office. This makes two stray keys that have been turned in.

ONE VERY BEAUTIFUL ladies kerchief. Hankie has various states on it but most prominent is . . . you guessed it . . . TEXAS!

SOME GAL IS GETTING careless . . . tsk, tsk losing her bathing suit. Well, it was turned in with a towel at the Rattler office and if the little lady can overcome blushes, she's welcome to it.

ONE DOUBLE-FLOWERED silver earring, and very pretty too, is at the Rattler Office. Far be it from us to see some poor gal go around with one earring amiss. Come in and get it.

ONE PAIR OF BLACK leather gloves have been waiting in the Rattler office for one pair of cool, strong hands to claim them as his own.

PAULINI—That is, FRED K. Paulini, your bracelet was found in the Officers' swimming pool. You can pick it up at The Rattler Office.

SOME PERSON MUST BE NEARLY BLIND by now for his (or her) glasses have not been claimed. They were found on Air Forces Day and apparently are GI glasses. If some good Samaritan sees the person in question, please do him a favor and tell him about the Rattler Office.

PERSONALS

PAPA—I'm home. You know the number. Whatsa matter? Cold feet? EZ.

BUCK—Still waiting for the double eagle. Better pay. Might wanna borrow again sometime. Biddy.

IF THE PARTY who escorted my girl home from the dance last Friday night will call at Bks. 531, I will knock the bejeepers out of him. No questions asked.

TRANSPORTATION

RIDERS WANTED—From Barstow to Pyote AAF. Lv. Barstow at 0700, leave base at 1710. See M/Sgt. Cooper, Ex. 257.



WHEN YOU hit the sack after a rough afternoon around the garbage pit, there's only one person who seems lower than you; that's the Sad Sack. The Sack's topkicks are tougher even than yours. His woes makes yours light. When you subscribe to YANK, you can feel superior every week in the year—all 52 of them. Let the Sad Sack make your sack a bed of roses. **SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

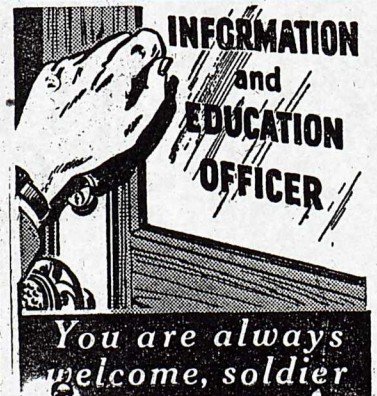
★ Your Company Clerk will enter your YANK subscription for you in the Orderly Room this coming PAY DAY. Out of every dollar received 10 cents will go to your Company Fund.

YANK

IT'S ONLY 1 BUCK FOR SIX MONTHS AND 2 BUCKS FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR



"I know they say we should all hold on to our War Bonds, but—Oh, never mind."



You are always welcome, soldier

NEXT TO SERVICE CLUB
LT. W. C. GRUBEN
SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE



KOOPS' KORNERS

FIFTEEN DAYS PLUS

Through the courtesy of the 2AF and the assistance of wealthy friends I have spent the past 20 days furloughing in the great mid-west, with time in Little Rock, Saint Louis, Chicago, and Wisconsin (LaCrosse).

If you're heading that way on furlough soon, here's a snake's-eye-view of what to expect.

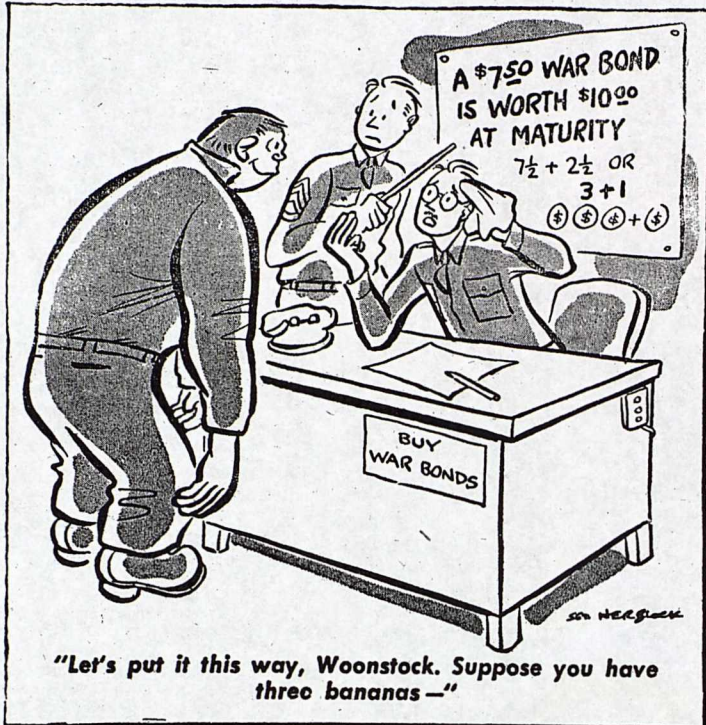
TRAVEL: It's rougher than I've ever seen it. Everybody's traveling, with uniforms making up about 75% of the load. Trains are late, crowded, and uncomfortable. At Little Rock four trains went by without picking up a single passenger. They were already packed to capacity. Many travelers said that they'd been waiting over 7 hours for a train. Try to arrange your trip so that you have stopovers at mealtimes. Rushing the diner is a rigorous job these days.

SHORTAGES: You'll find plenty of shortages with the home front taking them pretty well in stride. Meat shapes up as the biggest headache. Most of my neighbors in my home town are making their own butter; (you shake a quart of sour cream in a 2-quart jar for 30 minutes and presto—butter.) And there's a shortage of soap and toilet paper.

CIGARETTES: You don't have much trouble finding popular brands of cigarettes in neighborhood taverns, drug stores and groceries, but I advise you to stock up before you go. You're bound to win friends and influence people.

WOMEN: They're still missing the males. At most of the joints in LaCrosse, unescorted girls and all-femme parties are in the majority. About 30% of the couples dancing are gals with gal partners—a pastime that is not allowed in bigger cities and smarter places.

HOTELS: Reservations are necessary weeks and weeks in advance at any downtown hostleries in Chicago. The Sherman



"Let's put it this way, Woonstock. Suppose you have three bananas—"

Hotel in Chi has a special rate for servicemen, incidentally.

FRIENDS: You'll find more familiar faces around the old neighborhood this furlough than ever before, due to redeployment and discharges. The old gal-friends are mostly married and some of them have even been married and divorced. As a disgruntled GI pal of mine remarked, "They got the gold bar blues".

ARMY: LaCrosse is an MP-less town, despite the nearby Camp McCoy. Many furloughing GIs get into civilian clothes during furlough. One time I spotted a GI wearing a uniform completely military except for a panama hat, another was wearing a green shirt, and a third was arrayed in suntans, brown shoes, dog tags and—a bright red tie. A stack of returnees and furloughing GIs dot Chicago. And MPs are prowling the Loop these days. They didn't use to.

CHICAGO: The Congress Hotel, once possessed by the Army as a radio school, reopened August 1 as a hotel. They cleaned it up and it looks quite spiffy. The electrical fundamental classroom during the GI days is now the Glass Hat cocktail lounge. Sic transit gloria mundi. I took a stroll down North Clark street for an evening of slumming. The Playhouse and McGovern's Liberty Inn are still doing slambang business, there are few GIs taking in the North Clark street sights. Joe E. Lewis is starring at the Chez Paree and bringing down the house with his favorite "Sam, You Made the Pants Too Long". Billy Gilbert, the sneezing comic, headlines the show at Colisimo's. The Dinning Sisters with Spivak's band are swooning bobby-soxers at the College Inn.

PESTS: The kids back home are collecting shoulder patches by the numbers. Be prepared to be accosted when you're downtown by some dirty-faced urchin who will ask you to send him a shoulder patch of the 2AF and any others you might get. (I have some kids' addresses if anybody has an overabundance of shoulder patches from other Air Forces). Also shoe shine boys are operating in vast droves on practically any corner of any street.

GI JARGON: You'll find that the civilians are becoming increasingly familiar with the various GI jargon. Old aunts and little tots rattle off sentences about "POE" and "APO" and ask you whats your MOS.

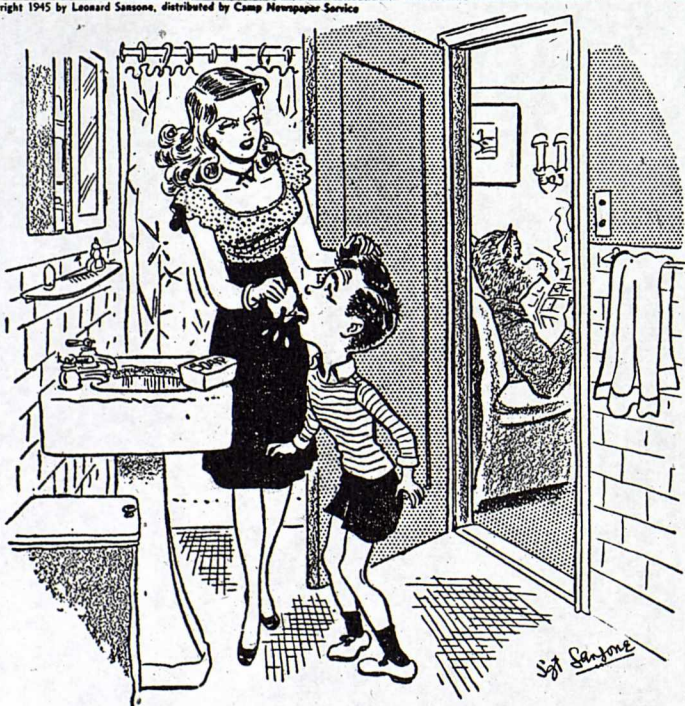
WINDOW SHOPPING: Liquor is plentiful in the mid-west. Drug stores and liquor stores display large windows full of PM, Lord Calvert, Schenleys, etc. They even have a good supply of Scotch. Many shops have displays of German captured equipment but few people stop. The novelty has worn off the viewing of Nazi weapons, uniforms and such souvenirs. Stores still seem to be doing rushing business in spite of a shortage of clerks and a lack of quality goods.

IN SHORT the home front looks just about the same. They seem to be in the war deeper than ever. The girls are pretty, the drinks are good, the beds are comfy and the only fly in the furlough ointment is "ya gotta come back".

The Wolf

by Sansone

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"What else did he tell you?"